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(WASHINGTON) - Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) voted to provide short-term help to those struggling to make ends meet during the recession, and long-term solutions to build upon the work of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Labor, Health and Education Appropriations Act provides relief to American families by shoring up health and social safety nets.

"This legislation is an important part of our broader economic strategy," said Congressman Carnahan.

"It allows us to provide short-term help to those who need it most, while making long-term investments in building up our workforce and helping our youth get the skills they need to succeed in the jobs of the future."

The bill funds grants that allow states to provide health care to more of their uninsured residents. It also includes funding to provide jobs, meals and other support services to impoverished seniors, as well as critical energy assistance programs that help heat and cool low income homes.

"This bill gives our workers the tools they need to thrive in a new clean-energy economy and provides aid to workers that were recently affected by mass layoffs," said Carnahan. **"At the same time, we improve education for our young people and help them succeed in college and beyond. □ As the workforce of the future, we must ensure that they are ready for the challenges of a 21**

st
century global economy."

The bill reinforces health care reform by addressing nursing and health care shortages with programs to help recruit and train nurses and other health professionals - particularly in underserved areas.

Congressman Carnahan secured \$400,000 for the Missouri Baptist Hospital Women's Health Screening Project in St. Louis, St. Genevieve and Jefferson Counties. This funding expands Missouri Baptist's woman's health screening outreach to a greater portion of the Missouri's Third Congressional District. It will help expand the current outreach services at a time when a

slowing economy will mean many women will skip important screenings.

Carnahan also secured \$200,000 for America Scores, St. Louis for a Literacy Enhancement and Obesity Prevention After-School Program. Students are encouraged to succeed by boosting funding for programs to help struggling adolescents and young students learn to read - because literacy is one of the most important factors in determining future success.

Twelve percent of Missouri high school students are obese according to the Department of Health and Human Services. Childhood obesity increases the likelihood of obese adults and leads to chronic disease and high health care costs.

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